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Reply to Office Action of September 5, 2008

Docket No.: 66540(46590)

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (withdrawn) The compound of claim 1, wherein the acyl group for X is a carboxyl group.
  - 4. (Cancelled)
  - 5. (Cancelled)
  - 6. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is an amino group.
- 7. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1, wherein L is a  $C_{1-10}$  alkylene group.
  - 8. (Cancelled)
  - 9. (Cancelled)
  - 10. (Cancelled)
  - 11. (Cancelled)
  - 12. (Withdrawn) A prodrug of a compound of claim 1 or a salt thereof.
  - 13. (Cancelled)
  - 14. (Cancelled)
  - 15. (Cancelled)
  - 16. (Cancelled)
  - 17. (Cancelled)
  - 18. (Cancelled)

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- 19. (Cancelled)
- 20. (Cancelled)
- 21 (Cancelled)
- 22. (New) A compound represented by the formula

$$R^2$$
  $R^3$   $R^4$ 

wherein

R1 and R2 are the same or different and each is

- (1) a  $C_{1-10}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;
- (2) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (3) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl group;

 $R^3$  is a  $C_{6.14}$  aryl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s), a halogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a carboxyl group, a hydroxy group, and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);  $R^4$  is an amino group:

L is a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylene group;

Q is a bond, a  $C_{1-10}$  alkylene group or a  $C_{2-10}$  alkenylene group; and X is

- (2) a cyano group;
- (3) (3a) a carboxyl group:
  - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
  - (3c) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

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substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyloxy group;

- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3f) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbarnoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;
- (3h) a carbamoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3j) a mono- or di-C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;
- (3k) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3l) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group,
  - (3m) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

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substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;

- (3n) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (3o) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3p) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3q) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3s) a phosphono group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1\text{-}6}$  alkyl group;
  - (3t) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3u) a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (3v) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from an amino group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (3w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (4) (4a) a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;

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- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a
- (4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);

- (4e) a fused aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4f) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (4g) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>8-14</sub> aryloxy group:
- (5) (5a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (5b) a C<sub>6-14</sub> arylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (5c) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6) (6a) an amino group;
    - (6b) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
    - (6c) a carboxy-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
    - (6d) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted

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by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (6e) a carbamoylamino group;
- (6f) a mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoylamino group;
- (6g) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonylamino group;
- (6h) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylsulfonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (6i) an aromatic heterocyclyl-sulfonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-group and a monoor di-( $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6j) a mono- or di-(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6k) a C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6I) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a cyano group, an optionally halogenated  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6m) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6n) a C<sub>8-13</sub> arylalkenyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6o) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group, a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6p) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6q) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6r) a tetrahydropyranylcarbonylamino group;

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- (6s) a 4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1-benzofuranyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6t) a  $C_{1\text{-}6}$  alkoxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1\text{-}6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (6u) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6v) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbamoylamino group; or
- (6w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (7) (7a) tetrazolyl;
    - (7b) oxoimidazolidinyl;
- (7c) dioxoimidazolidinyl optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7d) oxopiperazinyl;
  - (7e) dioxopiperazinyl;
  - (7f) oxodihydrooxadiazolyl;
  - (7g) dioxoisoindolyl;
  - (7h) oxazolyl optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (7i) dioxooxazolidinyl or dioxothiazolidinyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (7j) 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-thiazolidin-5-yl or 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-oxazolidin-5-yl, each of which is optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7k) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-tetrahydroimidazo[1,5-a]pyridinyl;
  - (7l) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-10,10a-dihydroimidazo[1,5-b]isoquinolinyl; or
  - (7m) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-

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carbonyl group;

provided that

when X is an ethoxycarbonyl group, then Q is a  $C_{1-10}$  alkylene group or a  $C_{2-10}$  alkenylene group or a salt thereof.

- 23. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
- (2) a cyano group;
- (3) (3a) a carboxyl group;
  - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
- (3c) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3f) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy group;
- (3h) a carbamoyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
  - (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally

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substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;

- (3j) a mono- or di- $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3k) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3l) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3m) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3n) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (3o) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3p) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3q) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3s) a phosphono group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
  - (3t) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3u) a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl- $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (3v) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

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substituent(s) selected from an amino group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group; or

(3w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (4) (4a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4e) a fused aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4f) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (4g) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>6-14</sub> aryloxy group;
- (5) (5a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;

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- (5b) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (5c) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (7) (7a) tetrazolyl;
    - (7b) oxoimidazolidinyl:
- (7c) dioxoimidazolidinyl optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7d) exopiperazinyl;
  - (7e) dioxopiperazinyl;
  - (7f) oxodihydrooxadiazolyl;
  - (7g) dioxoisoindolyl;
  - (7h) oxazolyl optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (7i) dioxooxazolidinyl or dioxothiazolidinyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (7j) 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-thiazolidin-5-yl or 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-oxazolidin-5-yl, each of which is optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7k) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-tetrahydroimidazo[1,5-a]pyridinyl;
  - (7I) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-10,10a-dihydroimidazo[1,5-b]isoquinolinyl; or
- (7m) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group.
- 24. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each is a  $_{C1-10}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group.

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- 25. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein R3 is a C6-14 aryl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a C1-6 alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s) and a halogen atom.
  - 26. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein Q is a bond.
  - 27. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein X is
  - (3) (3a) a carboxyl group;
    - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
- (3c) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3f) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;
- (3h) a carbamoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or dissubstituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;

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- (3j) a mono- or di- $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3k) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3l) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3m) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3n) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (3o) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3p) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3q) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3s) a phosphono group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
  - (3t) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3u) a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (3v) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from an amino group optionally mono- or di-substituted by

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- a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (3w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (4) (4a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4e) a fused aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4f) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (4g) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>6-14</sub> aryloxy group;
- (5) (5a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (5b) a C<sub>6-14</sub> arylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

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substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a  $C_{1-8}$  alkylthio group and a carbamoyl group; or

- (5c) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (6) (6a) an amino group;
    - (6b) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
    - (6c) a carboxy-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
- (6d) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6e) a carbamoylamino group;
  - (6f) a mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoylamino group;
  - (6g) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonylamino group;
- (6h) a  $C_{6\text{-}14}$  arylsulfonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1\text{-}6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (6i) an aromatic heterocyclyl-sulfonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6j) a mono- or di-(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6k) a C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6I) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a cyano group, an optionally halogenated  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6m) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6n) a C<sub>8-13</sub> arylalkenyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6o) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group, a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-

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carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (6p) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6q) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6r) a tetrahydropyranylcarbonylamino group;
- (6s) a 4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1-benzofuranyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6t) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (6u) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6v) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbamoylamino group; or
- (6w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group and a carbamoyl group.
  - 28. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is a carboxyl group.
- 29. (New) The compound of claim 22, which is 5-(aminomethyl)-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-6-neopentylnicotinic acid;
  5-(aminomethyl)-6-isobutyl-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)nicotinic acid;
  methyl 3-{[5-(aminomethyl)-6-isobutyl-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl]methoxy}-1-methyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxylate;
  {[2-isobutyl-6-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-(2-morpholin-4-yl-2-oxoethyl)pyridin-3-yl]methyl}amine;
  methyl 3-({[5-(aminomethyl)-6-isobutyl-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl]acetyl}amino)benzoate:

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N-[5-(aminomethyl)-6-isobutyl-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridin-3-yl]isoxazole-4-carboxamide, or a salt thereof.

- 30. (New) A pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of claim 22 or a salt thereof.
- 31. (New) The pharmaceutical agent of claim 30, which is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetes, diabetic complications, impaired glucose tolerance or obesity.
- 32. (New) A peptidase inhibitor comprising a compound of claim 22 or a salt thereof.
- 33. (New) The inhibitor of claim 32, wherein the peptidase is dipeptidyl dipeptidase-IV.
- 34. (New) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetes, diabetic complications, impaired glucose tolerance or obesity in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 22 or a salt thereof to the mammal.
- 35. (New) A method of inhibiting peptidase in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 22 or a salt thereof to the mammal.
- 36. (New) A production method of a compound represented by the formula

wherein

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 $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and Q are as defined in claim 22; La is a bond or a  $C_{1-9}$  alkylene group; and Xa is

- (3) (3a) a carboxyl group;
  - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
- (3c) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;
- (3f) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;
- (3h) a carbamoyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3j) a mono- or di- $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl group;
  - (3k) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

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substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;

- (3I) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3m) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3n) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylsulfonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (3o) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3p) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3q) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3s) a phosphono group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;
  - (3t) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (3u) a  $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (3v) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from an amino group optionally mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (3w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoyl group optionally

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substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (4) (4a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group,
- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4e) a fused aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (4f) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (4g) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>6-14</sub> aryloxy group;
- (5) (5a) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (5b) a  $C_{6-14}$  arylthio group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, a  $C_{1-8}$  alkylthio group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (5c) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclylthio group optionally

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substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (6) (6a) an amino group;
  - (6b) a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
  - (6c) a carboxy-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylamino group;
- (6d) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6e) a carbamoylamino group;
  - (6f) a mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoylamino group;
  - (6g) a C₁₋₀ alkyisulfonylamino group;
- (6h) a  $C_{6\text{-}14}$  arylsulfonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1\text{-}6}$  alkylsulfonyl group;
- (6i) an aromatic heterocyclyl-sulfonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6j) a mono- or di-(C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbonyl)-amino group;
  - (6k) a C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6l) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a cyano group, an optionally halogenated  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6m) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6n) a C<sub>8-13</sub> arylalkenyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6o) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group, a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6p) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the

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 $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group:

- (6q) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group;
  - (6r) a tetrahydropyranylcarbonylamino group;
- (6s) a 4-oxo-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1-benzofuranyl-carbonylamino group;
- (6t) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (6u) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
  - (6v) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyl-carbamoylamino group; or
- (6w) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbamoylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
  - (7) (7a) tetrazolyl;
    - (7b) oxoimidazolidinyl;
- (7c) dioxoimidazolidinyl optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7d) oxopiperazinyl;
  - (7e) dioxopiperazinyl;
  - (7f) oxodihydrooxadiazolyl:
  - (7g) dioxoisoindolyl;
  - (7h) oxazolyl optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (7i) dioxooxazolidinyl or dioxothiazolidinyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (7j) 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-thiazolidin-5-yl or 4-oxo-2-thioxo-1,3-

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oxazolidin-5-yl, each of which is optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;

(7k) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-tetrahydroimidazo[1,5-a]pyridinyl;

(7I) 1,3(2H,5H)-dioxo-10,10a-dihydroimidazo[1,5-b]isoquinolinyl; or

(7m) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl group optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-

carbonyl group;

or a salt thereof, which comprises subjecting a compound represented by the formula

$$R^2$$
 $R^1$ 
 $R^3$ 
 $R^3$ 
 $R^3$ 

wherein each symbol is as defined above, or a salt thereof to a reduction reaction.

- 37 (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a phenyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s) and a halogen atom.
  - 38. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
  - (3) (3a) a carboxyl group;
    - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
- (3c) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;

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- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;
- (3h) a carbamoyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3j) a mono- or di-C<sub>3-10</sub> cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;
- (3k) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3I) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group;
- (4) (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group);
- (4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a

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C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;

- (6) (6d) a C<sub>7-13</sub> aralkyloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6l) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a cyano group, an optionally halogenated C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group;
- (60) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group, a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (6p) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group.
  - 39. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
  - (3) (3a) a carboxyl group:
    - (3b) a carbamoyl group;
- (3c) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbonyloxy group;
- (3d) an aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
  - (3g) a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted by a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl

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group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group;

- (3h) a carbamoyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally mono- or disubstituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atom(s);
- (3i) a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3j) a mono- or di- $C_{3-10}$  cycloalkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3k) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group;
- (3l) an aromatic heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl-carbamoyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group; or
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group.
  - 40. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
  - (3) (3a) a carboxyl group;
- (3e) a non-aromatic heterocyclyl- $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group optionally substituted by a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group; or
  - (3r) a non-aromatic heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl group.
  - 41. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
- (4) (4b) a C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a hydroxy group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyl group and a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group;
- (4c) a  $C_{6-14}$  aryloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfonyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylsulfinyl group and a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group); or

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(4d) a 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclyloxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group.

- 42. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein X is
- (6) (6d) a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyloxy-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6I) a C<sub>6-14</sub> aryl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a halogen atom, a cyano group, an optionally halogenated C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a carbamoyl group;
- (6o) an aromatic heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{6-14}$  aryl group, a  $C_{7-13}$  aralkyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group; or
- (6p) a nitrogen-containing heterocyclyl-carbonylamino group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a  $c_{1-6}$  alkyl group (the  $c_{1-6}$  alkyl group is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s) selected from a carboxyl group, a  $c_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group), a carboxyl group, a  $c_{1-6}$  alkoxy-carbonyl group and a carbamoyl group.